## February 2023 Activities Report

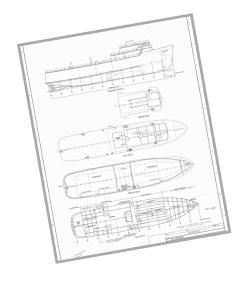


Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for all you do for Friend Ships! We have many opportunities before us and are excited about what the Lord is doing. Your help propels us forward!

In the Middle East, an opportunity has opened to work in Bethlehem, the very special city of Jesus' birth. We are still determining all the details but are planning to invite church teams in to join us in helping the elderly and others who are in need. Also, we have found the location in the Golan Heights for our Israeli base and humanitarian aid training center that we would like and are waiting to find out if it is available to us. If we are blessed to be able to move in, we'll start preparing the location so that in the fall, it will be ready to house the students for our first Sea Hawk class that will take place entirely in the Middle East.





Here at Port Mercy, we are full steam ahead on planning the reactivation and upgrades to Disaster Relief Ship Integrity. We will be going soon to the shipyard for work and will also be repairing and replacing equipment as needed.

## Friend Ships





Friend Ships will be offering a class at Port Mercy in Lake Charles, Louisiana for church members who would like to be trained to prepare and lead a team from your church in disaster relief. The classes would include CERT (Community Emergency Response Training), a program offered by FEMA and created by the Los Angeles Fire Department in order to train community members to be an effective part of the recovery teams in the event of a disaster or emergency. CERT teaches disaster preparation, basic first aid, fire safety, light search and rescue, terrorism and active shooter response. Friend Ships Aid and Crisis Response class will also include commodity distribution, spiritual support, food service, self-defense, high water rescue and an overview of International Disaster Relief. If your church would be interested in sending students, please let us know at portmercy@friendships.org. The dates are not yet set but we will keep you informed.



## **MANY OPPORTUNITIES!**

- Sea Hawk training in Israel
- Disaster Relief training in Louisiana
- Ship refitting at Port Mercy in Lake Charles
- Long term service as part of the Friend Ships crew
- Teams to Bethlehem

For more information, email us at portmercy@friendships.org